the affairs of the company and provide relief to innocent investors; and

(d) whether Government propose to take action against the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Control on Use of Residential Telephones**

†1705. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would issue at the earliest the guidelines to check or control the unlimited payment of residential talephone bills of concerned officers of all Ministries/Departments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Instructions already exist prescribing a ceiling of 650 free local calls on bimonthly basis to the officials entitled for residential telephone facility on Government account.

**Stipulation on Number of Telephone calls**

†1706. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to issue orders for stipulating the number of telephone calls and making the payment mandatory by the respective officers in respect of those telephone calls which are in excess to stipulated limits; and

(b) if so, the time by when the orders are likely to be issued and effected and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Under the

†. Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Delegation of Financial Powers Rules, the Ministries/Departments have powers to provide telephones to the officers in the offices. No limit on number of telephone calls can be prescribed on the office telephones as the same are used in public interest. STD facility on office telephone is allowed to Joint Secretary and above level officers. However the Ministries/Departments are required to take suitable action to control expenditure on office telephone keeping in view the austerity measures.

**Transfer of Staff in State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur**

1707. VEN'BLE DHAMMAVIRIYO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of transfer applications of award staff received by State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur on medical ground from different Zones of Jaipur, Bikaner and Sikar between 1st January, 1997 to 31st December, 2001 year-wise;

(b) the applications considered on merit and employees transferred showing SC/ST separately in (a) above;

(c) by when action on remaining will be taken; and

(d) the total transfers made from 1st Janaury, 1996 to date on request without medical ground and husband/wife not working in other States under Central/State Government offices and Departments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) As per information received from State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur, the details of